

The Luscombe Endowment

LUSCOMBE SILVAIRE “WIN ME” AIRPLANE GIVEAWAY

July 2010

The LUSCOMBE ENDOWMENT continues to fulfill the preservation missions for which it was formed- i.e. to preserve a significant part of America's aviation industrial heritage, and to provide technical support with FAA-PMA approved parts to Luscombe Owners. The Luscombe Endowment's work as a non-Profit organization includes the same fleet support previously established by the Luscombe Foundation from 1993 to 2004.

Don Luscombe pioneered the enclosed cabin monoplane in the 1920's and 1930's with the Monocoupe airplanes. He then developed the personal metal airplane marketplace with the Luscombe Phantom, Silvaire and Sedan models from 1933 into the 1940's. In short, Luscombe revolutionized the light aircraft industry twice in his aviation lifetime. Other manufacturers (Cessna, Piper, and Beech) were forced to develop metal aircraft designs to compete with the advances made by Luscombe in metal monocoque construction and airplane durability. Don Luscombe is no longer with us, but his aviation legacy remains flying on airports throughout the world.

When Luscombe shut down its production facilities in the early 1960's, there were some 6,000 aircraft units delivered and over 4,000 flying. The Luscombe Airplane Type Certificate data and engineering drawings had been locked away with little support provided to the owners and FAA until The Luscombe Foundation negotiated a contract to purchase it. That support continues for Luscombe owners today through efforts by the Luscombe Endowment, which has arranged for the continued production of FAA-PMA parts. That effort is supplemented by a parts exchange program, and fostered by access to knowledgeable technical support for Luscombe owners worldwide who wish to maintain or restore their airplanes, and preserve the legacy that Don Luscombe left America.

These Luscombe support efforts have been very well received by both Owners and regulators. The fruits of our labor indicate a growing number of flying Luscombes in the U.S., as well as in countries around the world, bringing the estimated total flying Luscombes close to 2500! Equally important, the availability of drawings, technical data, and parts, has improved the fleet maintenance and enhanced the quality of the restorations now seen at each fly-in gathering.

Public support of these goals and efforts are critical to this success. In just over 10 years of organized operations, the Foundation raised over \$2,000,000 cash and a greater amount in non-cash contributions, most of which was reinvested back into parts, Luscombe service support programs, and Luscombe preservation. Following upon that demonstrated need for support, and absent any other credible source for that support in the future, the Luscombe Endowment has embarked upon a public education campaign about aviation and Luscombes, supported by the continuation of programs previously proven to be successful and necessary to the fleet. This effort will continue, and even expand as a result of your support and assistance.

**YOUR DONATIONS AND SUPPORT DETERMINE OUR CONTINUED
SUCCESS
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!!**